

INTERVIEW IS "CORDIAL"

Where Angels Fear to Tread

Six Student Presidents Fail To Present Brief

by Peter S. Rehak

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months last year. "Education should be beyond politics" the Premier reportedly stated, and the presidents agreed with him. It was felt that the events of last year were being used as a political football. No mention was made, by either side of the University Action League, a clandestine group, which saw the Premier to discuss student problems earlier this year.

"VERY SATISFACTORY"

When asked whether they were satisfied with the results of the meeting, the presidents referred to their "official" press release. Roy Heenan stated, however, that "the meeting was very satisfactory pertaining to the ground covered." Jean Cournoyer, who represented the University of Montreal said: "We'll see after the plan is introduced in the Legislature, whether he followed any of our suggestions." Asked to comment on any further steps the Association might take, Claude Pinard (University of Sherbrooke) stated that this would have to be referred back to the student councils which each one of them represents.

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(Continued on Page 3)

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ROY HEENAN, McGill Students' Society President, enters the office of Premier Duplessis for yesterday's long-sought interview.

Result of Meeting Still Indefinite

by Sidney M. Margles

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Today, the Premier was prepared for this meeting, but the students were not too organized, for they did not know what to expect in the conference.

The meeting, which got underway several minutes after 10 am, lasted for slightly over two hours. When the presidents emerged from the office of the Premier, it was difficult to get an idea of the impression made upon the students.

Most of the Presidents had grim looks on their faces, while one or two were smiling. No statement was given by the students until mid-afternoon.

"CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE"

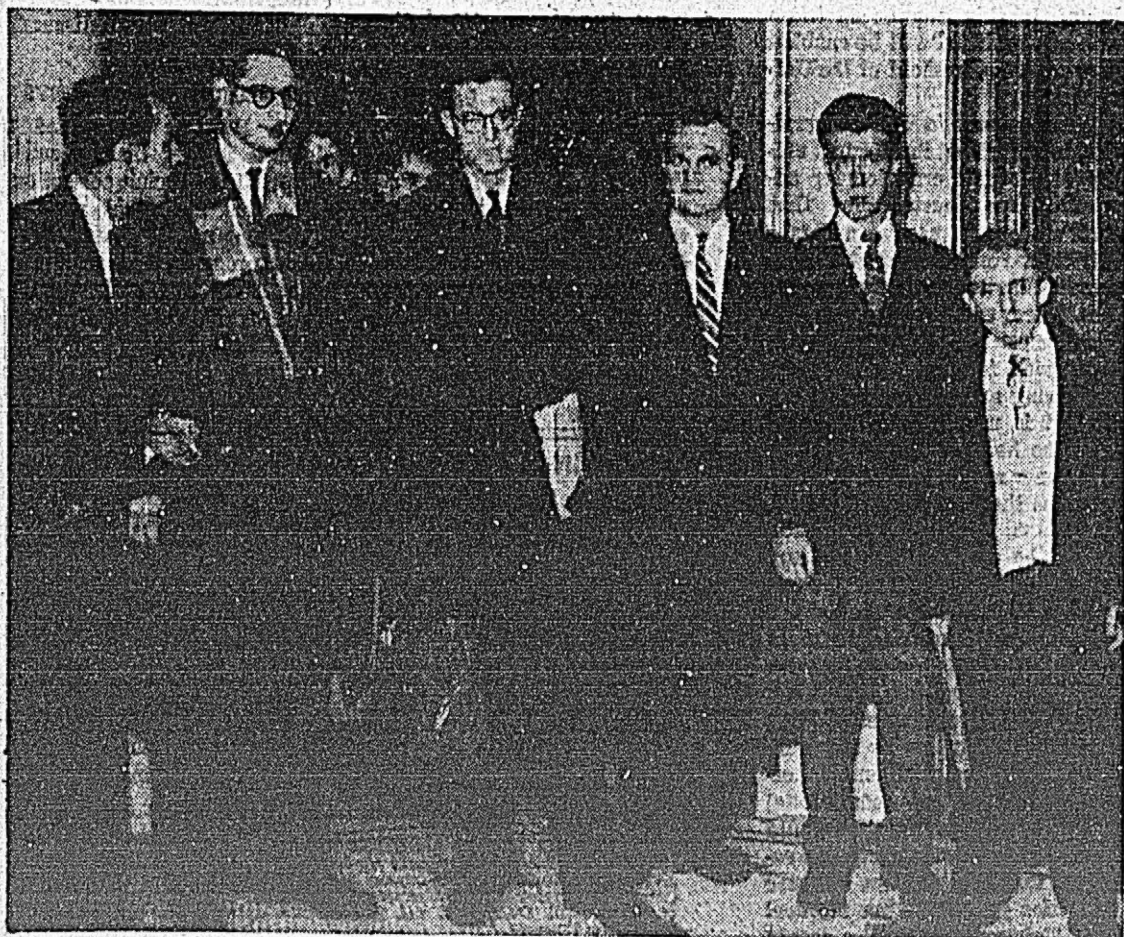
A newsman who was called into the Premier's office after the meeting came out a few moments later and stated that a spokesman for the government said that the meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere, and that the topic of discussion centered around suggestions dealing with the legislative project announced in the speech from the Throne last week.

The students gathered at the student house of Laval University to formulate an official statement which took nearly three hours to prepare.

The statement — when issued — took no stand on the affair, but only outlined what had transpired in the morning's meeting.

The student Presidents arrived at the Parliament buildings shortly before 10 am, supported by a

Stalwart Six Retreat From The Lion's Den



SIX STUDENT PRESIDENTS gather on the steps of the Legislative Assembly following their meeting with Premier Duplessis. From left to right, they are: Jean Cournoyer, University of Montreal; Claude

Pinard, University of Sherbrooke; Roy Heenan, McGill; Ray Jensen, Bishop's College; Roland Lamontagne, Laval; and Marvin Jay, Sir George Williams College.

Staff Photo by Rehak

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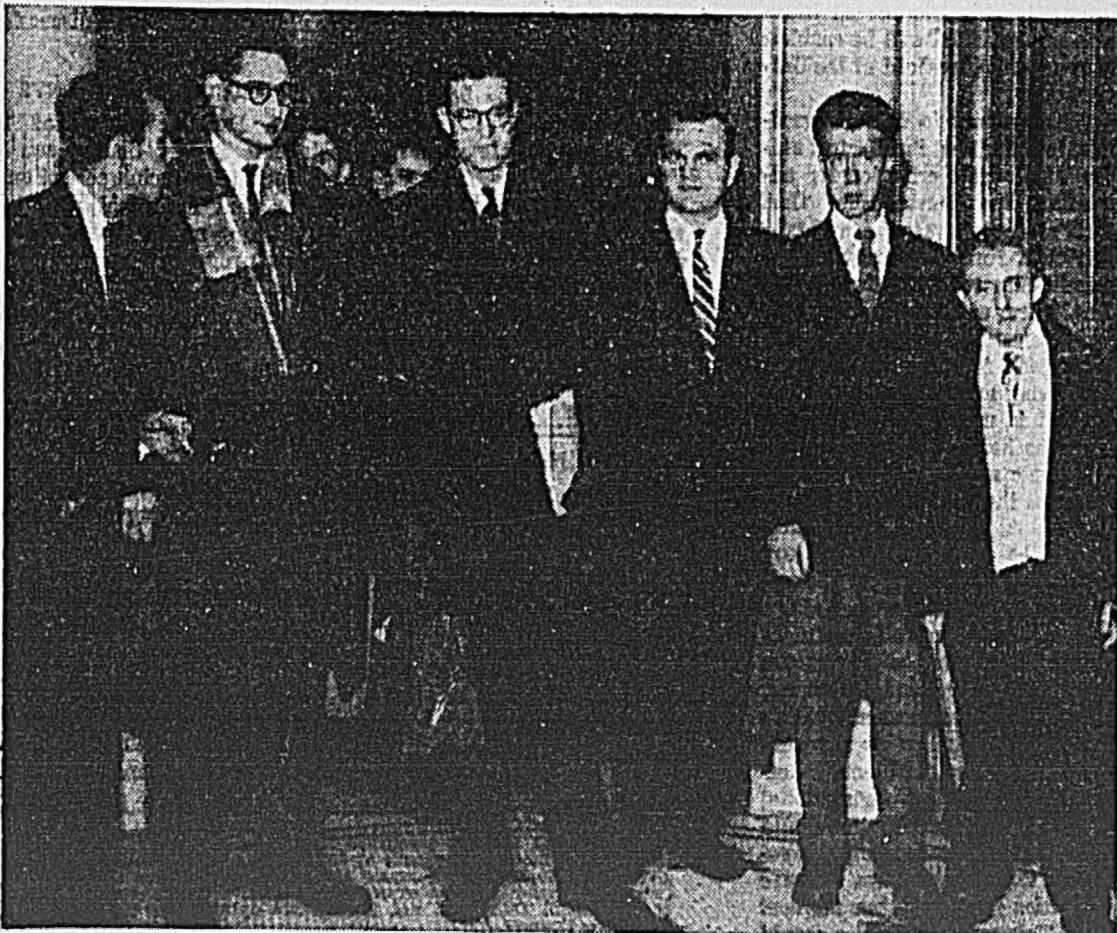
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(Continued on page 2)

A "Cordial" Meeting

The day has come and gone. The student presidents have had their long awaited interview with the Premier of the Province. And just as everyone had predicted, Mr. Duplessis settled the student problem by adroitly proving that both points of view had equal merit.

The Premier began the meeting by dispelling any doubts the student leaders may have had concerning his willingness to discuss grants to universities. He declared in no uncertain terms that the problem of aid to universities was not the responsibility of students and that he had no intention of wasting valuable time reviewing it.

The student leaders apparently agreed. Considering the tone of their statements issued before the meeting and their insistence on vital importance of statutory grants, this acceptance of Mr. Duplessis' position is quite a retreat. To neglect the main issue is to have accomplished next to nothing.

We have, of course, not as yet heard both sides of the story. Mr. Duplessis has said nothing about the interview, except that it was "cordial". This can be taken to mean that the proceedings went his way and that the students made no "childish demands" such as statutory grants.

One other disappointing feature of the interview was the fact that the famous student brief, the presentation of which was the reason for the meeting, was not presented to the Premier. No reason was given by the presidents for the failure to carry out their intended mission, but it must be concluded that the Premier was not interested in any student report which might have shown how backward this Province really is, educationally. The meeting was apparently so "cordial" that the students forgot what they had come for.

The results of this meeting cannot be truly evaluated until the new legislation is introduced in the Assembly. It appears obvious that statutory grants will not be brought up and that the existing loan system will be enlarged. In other words, we are right back where we started except that we have met the Premier and he can tell the electors about his "cordial" meeting and sincere interest in education and student problems. It is now our duty to tell the electors the truth and to continue our campaign with added vigour.

The Official Story

After several hours of serious deliberation, the student Presidents released a statement about their meeting with the Premier. The interview had lasted more than two hours, but exactly just was said will never be known.

All we can know is what the Presidents released, and that is not a great deal. For the benefit of students who may wonder exactly what was accomplished in this historic interview, we publish the Presidents' statement in full.

Press Release

Following their request for an interview, the six student presidents of the universities of the Province of Quebec were received by the Prime Minister this morning to present their suggestions concerning the proposed government legislation.

Not knowing in advance the nature of this proposed legislation, the Presidents and their councils drew up a brief summarising their position with respect to the financing of Education and of students.

The subject of the interview dealt only with the proposed government legislation concerning financial aid to students. On this question our suggestions were to the effect that the number of bursaries and scholarships be increased, that the amount of these be also raised, with the reimbursable portion being abolished, and that a loan system, subject to certain conditions, be established in order to help students who find themselves in need of emergency financing.

The Prime Minister said that he would take into consideration our suggestions in the formulation of his proposed legislation.

The Prime Minister, in answer to our suggestions, said that the number of bursaries is increased annually.

Concerning l'Aide à la Jeunesse, Mr. Sauvé told us that he could recommend to the Cabinet that the amount of these bursaries be increased with respect to the reimbursable portion. This would appear to be the system of loans which will be presented. The Prime Minister stated at the beginning of the interview that government grants to the universities were not the direct concern of students, and thus they were not discussed.

The Prime Minister recognized that the possibility of increased tuition fees could be a cause of financial problems to the students, and that he would consider this aspect of the situation. At the end of this meeting of more than two hours, we expressed our wish that such a meeting be repeated annually, and the Prime Minister said that he is always prepared to meet the representatives of the students to discuss their problem.

Students Outline Problems

Text of Education Brief

The following is the full text of the supplement to the student brief which was to be presented by the Association of the Student Councils of the Universities of the Province of Quebec to the Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec. The brief was not presented.

In the introduction to the "Brief of the students of the Quebec Universities on the financial conditions of a University Education in this Province" which we submitted to you at the beginning of this year, we brought to the attention of the Provincial Government the fact that "access to a University Education remains, in this Province, for the most part, a privilege of the materially more fortunate classes". This undisputable fact remains the paramount reason for our last request for this interview.

We would like to present a brief summary of our view of the problem, and our proposed solutions.

At the moment, well over fifty percent of the students enrolled in Quebec's six Universities come from the higher income classes of our society. These classes constitute only one tenth of the population of the Province. Consequently, many children of farmers, labourers and of others materially less fortunate, are unable to reap the benefits of Higher Education even though they are academically capable. We believe that the sole criterion for entrance to University should be intellectual aptitude.

The economic selection begins at the Primary and Secondary levels. We believe that the Government should remove all the financial obstacles which remain here, as recommended in several Briefs.

All who have the capacity should be able to go freely through the Primary and Secondary levels, whether it be in public schools or in the Classical Colleges. In this manner all those who are qualified will be enabled to reach the threshold of the University.

With respect to the universities, in order that intellectual ability be the sole criterion for admission, we must ensure that each student in need can obtain sufficient financial assistance to permit him to complete his studies. These scholarships and bursaries must be adequate enough to provide for both tuition fees and living expenses which the student is unable to meet, even with the help of his parents.

Because such a system directly concerns the students, we believe that the student population should be represented on any committee which might be appointed to administer such aid.

A system of loans is useful in aiding students to overcome emergency situations. However, if such a system were adopted as the fundamental or as the only solution to the problems inherent in our present educational system, then the situation could only degenerate. In fact, this solution would permit an increase in tuition fees, and thus the cost of a University Education would remain prohibitive to many individuals desirous and capable of enrolling in a University.

For many young people of the materially less fortunate classes, the prospect of having to repay a

considerable sum of money is an insurmountable obstacle. The most needy students thus hesitate to commit themselves to such a heavy obligation.

In the last analysis, the financing of Education is not complete without reference to Government Grants. It is essential that the universities receive grants from the Provincial Government which are both larger and statutory. These grants are of primary importance, for without this aid the universities face deficits which they can only meet by raising student fees. The periodic raising of fees, instead of decreasing them, can only perpetuate a situation which is deplorable, i.e. that "access to a University Education remains, in this Province, a privilege of the materially more fortunate class".

Moreover, in order to meet an increase in the number of students, the universities must expand their facilities. They cannot do this without Government aid.

CONCLUSIONS

The removal of financial obstacles at all levels of education will make ability the sole criterion for admission to University. In conformity with all enlightened societies, our present society is increasingly dependent on academically trained persons. It would be unfortunate if society were to sacrifice such a valuable resource by not permitting all youth with the requisitability to develop their potential.

We therefore conclude with the following recommendations:

1. That there be no financial obstacles to Primary and Secondary Education.
2. That the number of bursaries of the "Ministère de l'Aide à la Jeunesse" be increased.
3. That the amount of these bursaries be augmented to include both tuition fees and living expenses when necessary.
4. That the clause stipulating that a part of these bursaries be remitted to the Government by the beneficiaries be abolished.
5. That the principle of annual "per capita" grants to universities, with fixed payment dates, be recognized in the form of legal statutes, and that these statutes provide a method of distribution as well as a method for making periodic adjustments.

THE FINAL DAILY

This is the last issue of the Daily to be published before the Special Literary Issue on December 12. All campus organizations are hereby warned that any item slated for release at that date must be left in the "Coming Events" Box outside the Daily Office BEFORE DECEMBER 10. Consideration will not be given to any publicity received after that date.

6. That in addition to these recommendations, and conditioned by the application thereof, that the Provincial Government implement a system of loans to assist students in need of emergency financing.

Students' Society Head Comments

In the meeting held yesterday in Quebec City, the Premier's intention was to discuss with the six Presidents the forthcoming legislation dealing with financial aid to students. The conclusions of the brief concerning this were that the number and the amount of these bursaries be increased, that the reimbursable portion be abolished, and that a loan system be established for emergency financing. This would aid in achieving our aim that intellectual aptitude be the sole criteria for entrance to university. The Premier felt that the necessity to repay part of the loan tends to strengthen character through personal initiatives. He implied that he would raise the amount of these bursaries, mainly however in the reimbursable portion.

In regard to provincial grants, Mr. Duplessis' view was that this was a matter not within the competence of the students, but one which related to their administration. We concluded in our brief that in that they related to tuition fees the matters were inseparable. The problem of student finances cannot be concluded until the question of grants is settled. The Premier agreed that high fees would defeat the ends of a student aid program and he said he would consider this aspect. We hope that a satisfactory solution will be reached.

Roy Heenan

From Page 1

Interview

statement were released and the Presidents agreed to answer newsmen's questions. It was disclosed at this time that they had not presented their brief on education to the Premier as originally planned but discussions were "based on it".

SUMMONED STUDENTS

The Premier summoned the students to get their views on the problems facing education in order that he might use these in drawing up his new educational aid program, according to reports. He is expected to present the program to the Legislative Assembly in the near future.

According to Heenan, it was pointed out to the Premier that his proposed program of bursaries, as outlined in the Speech From the Throne last week, would be offset by rising fees. That is, more loans and scholarships for students and no direct aid to the universities will cause fees to increase, and the effect of extra loans will be lost.

The Premier also reportedly expressed his willingness to see the students again, should they have more problems to discuss.

The McGill Daily is published five times a week by the undergraduates of McGill University at 690 Sherbrooke St. West. Telephone AV. 8-2244. Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa. Editorial opinions expressed are those of the Managing Board of the McGill Daily and not the official opinions of the Students' Executive Council.

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First Athletics Night Saturday

Varied Program To Be Presented

The purpose of Athletics Night is to offer to the students of McGill one night in which they can see in action a collection of the best indoor sports the university has to offer. This night will enable you to see and compare for yourself the different sports and gives you an opportunity to support not one, but a number of your teams at one time.

This year's first Athletics Night will take place this Saturday evening, at the Sir Arthur Currie Gym at 8:00 pm and will feature five attractions. Heading this year's show is the Women's Athletic Association's Water Show "It All Began With a Man". Many of the university's loveliest and most talented girls star in this year's production and are ably supported in land routines by the Modern Dance Club.

Co-starring with the Water Show are the Basketball Redmen who are pitted against the highly rated Plattsburg State Teachers' College. This year's edition of the Redmen will feature an entirely new offence as they have moved from their traditional slow game to a fast breaking one. This is the second exhibition game for the Redmen, having dropped their opener to the University of Montreal by a single point, and they are hoping to come up with their initial win of the season this time.

Squash, boxing, and wrestling are the other features in the five-ring circus. Five of McGill's top squash players, including Tony and Henri Lafleur, will show their skill against players from MAAA and MBSC. If practices are any indication, the man to watch for McGill is Ross Adair.

In the BWF room, Coach Bert Light will be holding the McGill boxing championship and picking contenders for the Intercollegiate Championships. Highlight of his program will be the bout between intercollegiate heavyweight champion Dick Hinton and former intercollegiate heavyweight champion Carl Drew. Another bout which should arouse considerable interest pits Tom Hall of McGill football and Dartmouth boxing fame against Pierre Raymond a Canadian intercollegiate boxing champion.

Wrestling coach Turnbull will be of split allegiance since he coaches both McGill and their opponents, the International Y. Turnbull will be choosing his intercollegiate team from the showings that McGill wrestlers make on Saturday. To top off this pot pourri there will be dancing from 10 to 12 to the music of Stan Martin. Tickets for athletics night are one dollar per person and can be obtained at the door of the gym. on Saturday night.

From page 3

Ice Blues...

til late in the period, mainly due to some fine netminding by Redmen Goaler Alex Heron. Roth's long drive opened the scoring at 16:22 but with Toronto shorthanded, Redmen's Joe Polrler evened the count, Bruce Hutchison and John Baziw assisting. The period ended at 1-1.

Toronto banged in 3 unanswered goals in the first ten minutes of the second period to take a commanding 4-1 lead with MacDonald, Watt and Mills finding the range, before Saunders netted the first of his two for McGill at 13:13 on a neat set up by Joe Irvin and Jim Grant. However, the Blues broke loose with Richards of the Redmen serving a minor, as Stephen and Roth scored 16 seconds apart to give Toronto a 6-2 lead after two periods.

The Blues broke the game wide open as they tallied 4 times within the space of 2 minutes and 40 seconds early in the final stanza, the first 3 being scored with Richards again serving a minor penalty. Saunders and Terry Dingle combined for the Redmen final marker at 11:05 of the period with Toronto shorthanded and Elik closed out the Toronto barrage at 13:20 with his own team a man short.

McGill Takes Polo Crown

by Mel Sher

Coach Ross Firth got an early Christmas gift this year as his water polo charges brought home the Intercollegiate championship in a nerve-tangling game this Saturday.

The squad evened out the 7-6 deficit acquired in Toronto and went on to win the two game total point series by a score of 15-14.

Henri Polkki and Cameron Grout led the team's scoring effort with a hat trick each while captain Pentti Luomalo, Ed Menashe and Andy Halmay picked up one a piece to round out the McGill side of the ledger.

Juris 'Stone Wall' Svistunenko turned in one of his finest performances of the year as he leaped and jumped to pick up some saves that cannot be described as anything less than art.

LUOMALO SCORES

Pentti Luomalo opened up the scoring for the Redmen at 2:35 in the first quarter with Alec Benedek of Toronto out on a penalty. However, Mike McLoughlin scored two unanswered goals before Henri Polkki scored with McGill playing one man short. It was Mike McLoughlin again to start off the second quarter leaving the half time score 10-8 in favour of the Blues.

After a hot half time talking to by coach Firth, the Redmen took to the waters with vengeance in their hearts. Henri Polkki scored

a fast goal only to be answered by Toronto's Odell.

Then Cameron Grout broke and speeded down the pool leaving his defender at the other end of the pool. Grout shot and missed, but Menashe didn't waste the opportunity as he grabbed the ball and put it past Toronto goalie Kravis before he could turn around.

Art Brinner answered for Toronto to make the score 12-10 for the Blues. Then came one of the controversial moments of the game. Brinner shot one that got past Svistunenko, but the goal marker, who stands right behind nets, didn't think it hit the net. The referee, about one quarter way up the pool, thought differently and awarded Toronto a goal.

At this point, the team got inspired and resolved to win even if they had to beat the refs to do so.

Grout scored two unanswered goals to end the third quarter, and a third to start the fourth. With the score tied at 13-13, and about five minutes left in the game, Andy Halmay helped to relieve some of the tension for the Redmen by tallying.

Mike McLoughlin, a star performer for the Varsity team, put Toronto back in the game with his final goal of the evening. With two minutes left to play, Henri Polkki scored the winning goal.

WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE

TREASURE VAN SALE

December 9 — 12

Display and Sale of International Handicrafts:

BRAZIL

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McGILL UNION BUILDING

Walter Stewart Room

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The Lounge

10 A.M. — 9 P.M.

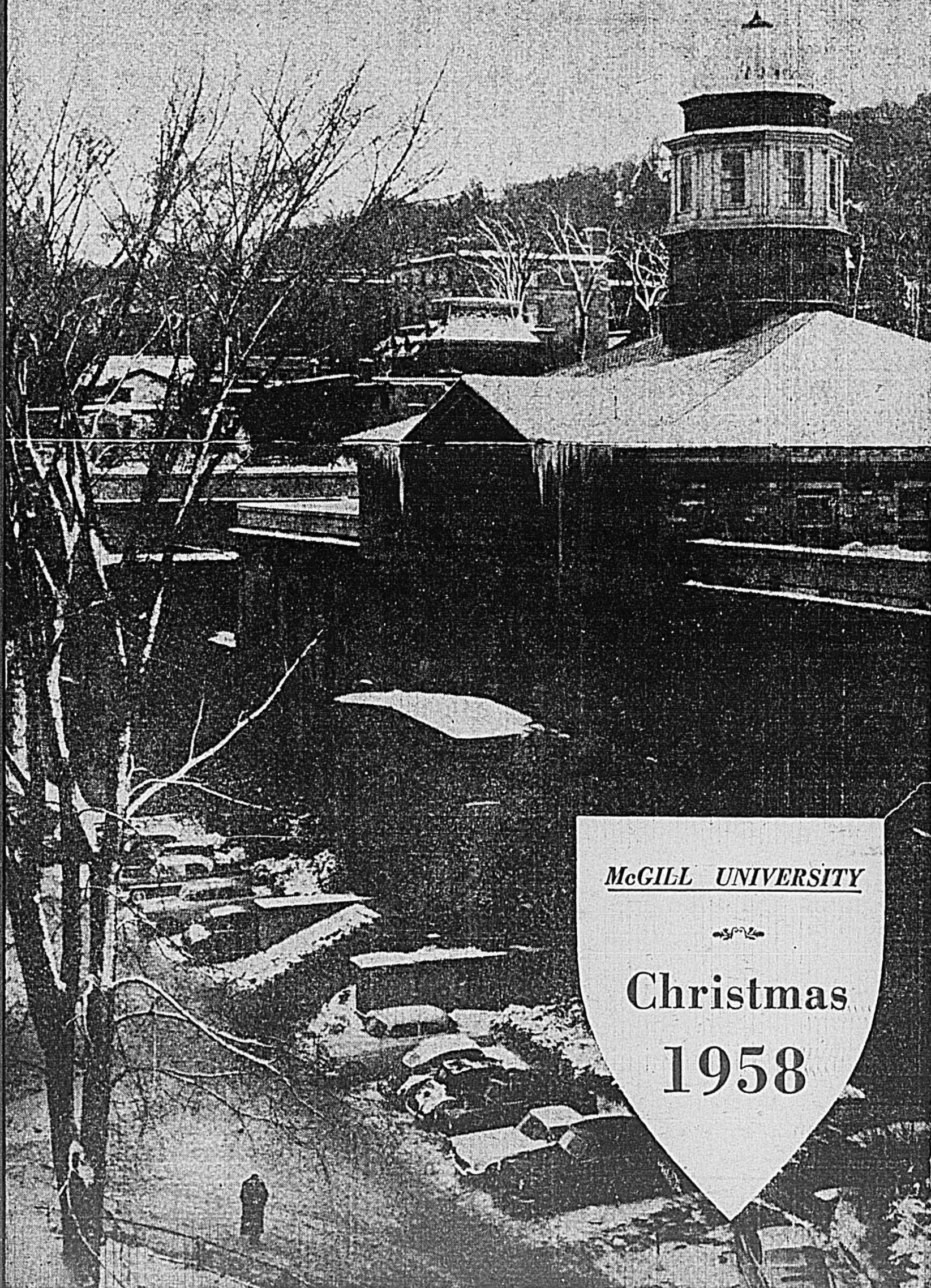
Special Literary Issue

McGill Daily

VOL. XLVIII. — NO. 49

Montreal, Friday, December 12, 1958

SPECIAL ISSUE



McGILL UNIVERSITY

Christmas
1958

New Scarlet Key President Chosen



Don Brennan, B. Eng. 4, has been chosen the new president of the Scarlet Key Society. He succeeds Don Ferrier, B. Eng. 5.

Two McGillians To Attend Seminar In West Indies

McGillians who have dreamt of a summer spent under tropic skies may get their chance — if they're ready to devote their days to weighing big issues brewing in the islands they visit.

The World University Service of Canada will pick two of the forty-five Canadian delegates to a WUS Seminar on fast-changing West Indian political, economic, social and cultural developments, from the McGill student body. The University College of the West Indies'

Kingston campus is site of the June-July 1959 conference, and the McGill Union box office is taking applications now.

Aspirants must be Canadian citizens and full-time senior or post-graduate students at the University. 5 pm on January 12 is deadline for filled-out applications. Forms and further facts may be got from the box office in the Union.

The selected pair will tour the new West Indies Federation, talk with other delegates about their specialty among five offered seminar topics (the Federation's politics and constitution; its economic and potential industry; health and welfare; cultural patterns; needs in education), and they will continue campus WUS work on return, reporting their experience to Canadians.

Nearly one hundred students and professors from North America, the Caribbean region and South America are expected to participate in this project.

This year's seminar will be the tenth in a series initiated by WUS of Canada in 1948. Seminars have been held in France, Germany, Holland, India, Japan, Ghana and Yugoslavia.

Daily Editor Is Rhodes Scholar

Gordon J. Wasserman, Editor-in-chief of the Daily, has been chosen one of two Rhodes Scholars from the province of Quebec.



Wasserman

He follows in the footsteps of W. E. Gladstone Murray, founder and first editor of the Daily in 1911, who won the same honour, which entitles its holder to two years of study at Oxford University.

Wasserman, a fourth year Honours Philosophy student, will proceed to the B. A. degree at Oxford's Final Honours School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. The scholarship carries a value of £750 a year.

Eleven Canadian Rhodes Scholars were chosen. The other winner from Quebec is Jean Letourneau, a student at Laval University, who will continue his studies in theoretical physics.

Choral Society Presents "Sing At Christmas"

The McGill Choral Society, fresh from a concert in Ottawa last Saturday, will present its fourteenth annual "Sing at Christmas" concert tomorrow night in the Gymnasium. Tickets at \$1 will be sold at the door.

Because the first half hour of the concert is being broadcast live by the CBC, the audience are asked to be in their seats by 8:15 pm, instead of the usual time of 8:30.

The director, Gifford Mitchell, Supervisor of Music for the Protestant School Board and lecturer in McGill's Faculty of Music has chosen a traditional form of performance this year. 12 carols will tell the Story of Christmas in song, alternating with 12 short selections from the Gospel read by foreign students at McGill dressed in their national costumes. The McGill Symphonic Band under the direction of Morley Calvert will accompany some of the carols.

The Martlets, a 16 member representative group of the Society will be heard in the second half of the programme. The Choral Society and the Symphonic Band will also be featured in a Fred Waring arrangement of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite."

GRADUATE PHOTOS

All proofs of graduate photos for Old McGill '59 must be returned to Coronet Studio by tomorrow Dec. 13 if they are to be published in the Annual. This deadline will not be extended.

Season's Greetings



Sun Life, Canada's largest life insurance company, needs able young men to train for important positions in the company.

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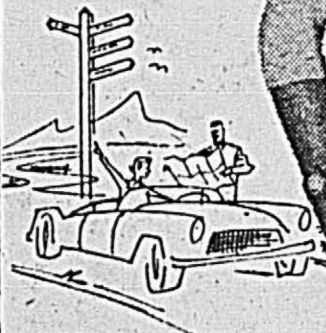
This way to glamour!

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St. James United Church Players and St. James Choir

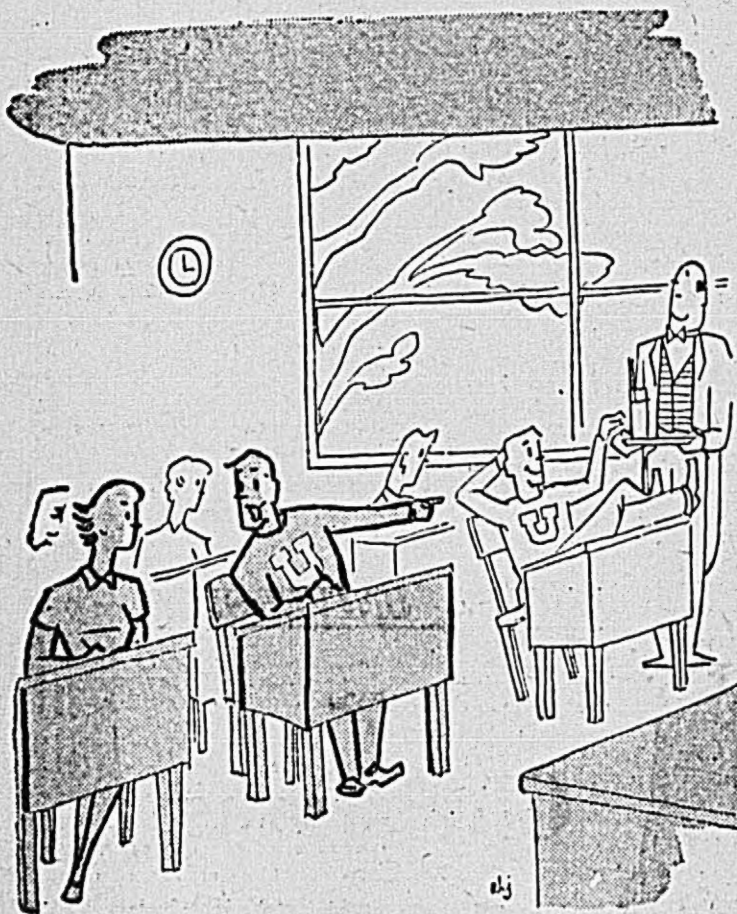
Sunday, December 14th, 1958

Directed by Miss Marion Brilinger

"Behold, Your God"

A High Experience of Colour, Music, Drama and Worship

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.



He says he does it by Steady Saving at the Bank of Montreal*

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